

Special Parks, Libraries & Cultural Assets Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 21, 2008
4:03 p.m.
Third Floor, City Hall

Present: **Chair:** **CM Engel**
 Vice Chair: **CW Welch**
 Members: **CM Stuckel, & CM Henderson**

Also Present: **CM Tandy**

Absent: **CM Ward-Pugh (Excused)**

Chairman Engel began the meeting by introducing the members and non-members of the committee that were present. A quorum was established.

Chairman Engel asked for a Moment of Silence for Jefferson Circuit Court Judge Kathleen Voor Montano.

Special Items For Discussion

Mike Heitz, Director, and Marty Storch, Assistant Director, of the Louisville Metro Parks Department were present to speak and answer questions regarding the electrical bill situation at the parks and swimming pool closings. Mr. Heitz gave brief review of the electrical bill situation. The following was discussed:

Electrical Bill Situation

- Little Leagues will not have to pay for electrical use out of their own pockets for the 2008 season
 - 8 corporate sponsors are to provide more that \$65,000 to help
 - PNC Bank
 - National City Bank
 - 5th Third Bank
 - Hillerich and Bradsby
 - BB&T Bank
 - Central Bank
 - King Southern Bank
 - Chase Bank
- The Metro Parks Foundation will work with the Leagues to cover their electrical expenses on the behalf of the Sponsors and the Foundation has contacted each League with instructions on how to apply
- Leagues must do the following to apply
 - Submit the bills to the Metro Parks Foundation for prompt reimbursement
 - Document what conservation efforts they will make to reduce their use of electricity in 2008 and beyond
 - Quickly sign Annual Agreement

Chairman Engel thanked the Sponsors.

Swimming Pools

Chairman Engel read the statements sent in from the following:

- Irish Hill Neighborhood Association - Breslin Pool (attached)
- Phoenix Hill Neighborhood Association - Breslin Pool & Shelby Park (attached)

Swimming pool closings in general:

- Forced to make choices to cut the budget in a very short time period
- Decision should result in ongoing savings
- Closing 5 and continue operating 4

- Three factors for closing pools
 - Condition of each pool
 - Geography
 - Attendance trends
- The five to be closed have the least total youth walk-in traffic
- There are more structured groups visiting pools but overall use has declined
- Pools are open 10 weeks out of the year
- Community partnering was mentioned but no one has come forward as of yet
- Indoor Aquatic Program for year round services and seasonal services
- Summer programs through the Parks Department
- Some pool problems
 - Age of the Pools
 - Balance of the chemical system
 - Inadequate Drains
 - Leakage
- Natatorium Centers
- Spray grounds
- 100 acre tract of land on Brentlinger Lane - Center to be built so people with all different abilities can recreate together. Will have two gyms and three pools, a 6 hole golf course with artificial turf, a ball field with artificial turf, active sports, and walkways

The following was also discussed:

- Equal access to services
- Community participation regarding solutions
- Parents comfort level
- Security
- Transportation
- Pools remaining open
 - Sun Valley Park
 - Nelson Hornback
 - Camp Taylor - the Norton Pool
 - Algonquin Park
 - Mary T Meagher Aquatic Center - which will be open year round
- Learn to swim programs
- 525 pools in the Louisville area in other Communities, Hotels, etc.
- Life guards
- State parks

Pending Legislation

[R-285-12-07 A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE HIGHEST AND BEST USE FOR VARIOUS METRO PARKS.](#)

Status: In Committee - Tabled

Committee: Parks, Libraries & Cultural Assets

Primary Sponsor: Jim King

Discussion: This item remained **Tabled**.

Motion to Adjourn was made by Glen Stuckel and seconded by Vicki Welch.

***NOTE: Items sent to the Consent Calendar or Old Business will be heard before the full Council at the April 24, 2008 Council Meeting.**

Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.

KQG

